

Amendments to the Claims (this listing of claims replaces all prior versions):

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

at a network element, processing information to identify network faults that are contributing to failure of the network element because they are a cause of or are caused by other network faults and that contribute to a failure of a occurring in the network element in which at least some of the network faults are occurring, and

based on the results of the information processing, generating sending to a network management station traps with respect to fewer than all a subset of the network faults that are occurring, the subset including at least some of the network faults that were identified as having a causal relationship to other network faults. and

sending the traps to a network management station.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the information is processed using a directed acyclic graph.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 in which nodes of the graph represent entities of the network element.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which the result of the processing comprises information about the causal relationships among at least some of the network faults.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 also including
requesting fault information from an entity that is part of the network element and which has not triggered a fault notice to determine if there is a network fault associated with the network element.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 also including
reporting the traps to an operator of the network management station.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising

a network element having

network entities that are subject to network faults, wherein the network faults of at least some of the network entities cause or are caused by network faults of at least some ~~others of the other~~ network entities, and

a medium bearing information capable of configuring a machine in the network element to

process information to identify network faults that contribute to failure of the network element because they are a cause or are caused by of other network faults, and

based on the results of the information processing, generate send to a network management station traps with respect to fewer than all a subset of the network faults that are occurring at the network entities, the subset including at least some of the network faults that were identified as having a causal relationship to other network faults.

~~and send the traps to a network management station.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A medium bearing information capable of configuring a machine to:

determine whether network faults are contributing to failure of a network element because they are a cause or are caused by of other network faults occurring in entities of [[a]] the network element, and

based on the results of the determination, generate send to a network management station traps with respect to fewer than all a subset of the network faults that are occurring, the subset including a least some of the network faults that were identified as having a causal relationship to the other network faults.

12. (Original) The medium of claim 11 in which the information comprises a directed acyclic graph of nodes.

13. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

using a directed acyclic graph that models causal relationships between network fault objects to process information about network faults that contribute to a failure of a network element because they are a cause of other in which at least some of the network faults are occurring in the network element, and

based on the results of the information processing, ~~generating~~ sending to a network management station traps with respect to root cause network faults and not with respect to at least some cascading network faults triggered by root cause network faults, ~~and sending the traps to a network management station.~~

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein one network fault directly causes another network fault or is directly caused by another network fault.